

Dean's Council on Diversity (DCD)
Summary Meeting Notes, 2 February 2004

The DCD meet at River's Crossing on Monday, 2 Feb, at 1pm. In attendance at the meeting: Jenny Oliver, Janette Hill, Myra Womble, Laurie Hart, David Stinson, Adele Patrick, Roy Legette, Yvette Getch, Pam Paisley, Cindy Molloy, Janice Fournillier, Letha Mosley, Linda Chester, Billy Hawkins and Tal Guy.

We started the meeting with a recap of the leadership team meeting. Janette Hill read through highlights of the notes from the last meeting (15 Jan 04). There was additional discussion related to Carol Ann's situation (Bone Appetite). Pam Paisley reinforced that one of our roles should be one of advocacy for those who do not have a voice. There was a consensus in the group that indeed this was one of our roles. Adele Patrick is going to follow-up and get more information related to the kind of staff position Carol Ann holds (e.g., what benefits they have (if any), how many there are on campus, if there is a governance body for the group). Anyone interested in giving a contribution to Carol Ann was encouraged to visit Bone Appetite for more information on how to do so.

Jenny Oliver led a discussion related to the anti-discrimination and harassment correspondence written by Bob Hill and co-sponsored by the DCD. Some edits were suggested for the text. We also discussed the need to show the letter to the Dean prior to sending it to the President's office. Jenny Oliver said that she would make sure that the Dean was aware of the letter prior to sending it to Mike Adams' office.

We next moved into reports and updates from the Action Teams. Two teams reported on activities since our last meeting: The "Center" and "Recruitment and Retention" teams. Janette Hill reported on the current writing activities underway by the Center Action Team. Tal Guy provided background related to our efforts to get funding, particularly in regards to the involvement of Kevin Parker and the Office of Institutional Diversity. Cindy Molloy reported on the activities underway by the Recruitment and Retention Action Team. The Action Team had their first meeting last week and talked about two big issues: how to develop goals and strategies and how to divide the work of the group to give attention to faculty, staff and student issues. Cindy discussed the first goal established by the team: to identify existing programs across campus related to student recruitment and retention. The hope is to find out what's out there and then to figure out what to do with the information (i.e., where are the gaps? How do we share the information?).

Sharing the information led to a larger conversation amongst the DCD, including how to help give a voice to those who might not feel safe in expressing their opinions and raising the diversity conversation to another level (one that might not be so comfortable). Myra Womble discussed the viability of a Web-based survey – for the Recruitment and Retention Action Team as well as the DCD overall. We discussed how a survey might help provide information from those who do not feel they have a voice, enabling the DCD to take action on some level (e.g., advocacy, raising awareness). We also discussed the viability of a Suggestion Box on the 1st floor by the DCD bulletin board at Aderhold

Hall. A related issue came up in the conversation: how to share information about the DCD with the College. We discussed sending information out on COE-Memo (e-mail) and using the DCD Web site. The Communication, Outreach and Programming Action Team will look into possibilities for gathering and sharing information, and share ideas with the DCD at the next meeting.

We closed the large group meeting with announcements...

- Q Film Series co-sponsored by Adult Ed and DCD.
- Henry Louis Gates will be doing a series on PBS related to what is going on with race starting this week.
- Keith Parker and the OID are sponsoring a Diversity Workshop at the Georgia Center on Thursday, 5 Feb (Room Q).

Action Teams met for the remaining of the meeting time. Notes will be shared on the DCD listserv.

A reminder was given that DCD members who have not yet signed up for an Action Team need to do so via letting Jenny or Janette know which team(s) they want to join!

Next Meetings (mark your calendars!!)...

9 February: DCD Leadership Team, 11-12:30pm

1 March: DCD (all of us!), 1 – 2:30pm, 103 Ramsey Center